

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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EDWARD STROUGHTER, JR.,

Plaintiff,

v.

WASHOE COUNTY JAIL DET. STAFF, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:19-cv-02021-GMN-DJA

ORDER

This action is a *pro se* civil rights action filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. On November 6, 2020, the Court issued an order dismissing the complaint with leave to amend the complaint within 60 days. (ECF No. 14 at 8). The time period for filing an amended complaint has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed an amended complaint or otherwise responded to the Court's order. District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and "[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal" of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure

1 to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address);
2 *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to
3 comply with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986)
4 (dismissal for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local rules).

5 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey
6 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors:
7 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to
8 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring
9 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.
10 *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 130;
11 *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

12 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in
13 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket,
14 weigh in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs
15 in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of
16 unreasonable delay in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See
17 *Anderson v. Air West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor – public policy
18 favoring disposition of cases on their merits – is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor
19 of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey
20 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"
21 requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d
22 at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file an amended complaint within thirty
23 days expressly stated, that the Court would dismiss this action if Plaintiff failed to file a
24 timely amended complaint. (ECF No. 14 at 9). Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning that
25 dismissal would result from his noncompliance with the Court's order to file an amended
26 complaint within thirty days.

27 For the foregoing reasons, it is ordered that this action is dismissed based on
28 Plaintiff's failure to file an amended complaint in compliance with this Court's November

1 6, 2020 order.

2 It is further ordered that Plaintiff's motions requesting status (ECF Nos. 10, 11, 13),
3 filed prior to the Court's screening order, are denied as moot.

4 It is further ordered that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment accordingly and
5 close this case. No further documents shall be filed in this closed case.

6 DATED THIS 13 day of January, 2021.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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